

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Strength of Police Units in the GDR and East Berlin

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EVALUATION \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OBTAINED \_\_\_\_\_

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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The following is a summary of the organization, strength and locations of the Deutsche Volkspolizei (DVB).

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I.

1. The highest DVP headquarters (without transport police, see paragraph V) is the Hauptverwaltung Deutsche Volkspolizei (HVDVP) which is stationed in East Berlin. This headquarters is organized and operates on a para-military pattern.
2. The following installations are subordinate to the HVDVP:
  - a. Fourteen Bezirksverwaltungen Deutsche Volkspolizei (BVDVP) in the capitals of the Bezirke (Rostock, Schwerin, Neubrandenburg, Potsdam, Frankfurt/Oder, Cottbus, Magdeburg, Halle, Erfurt, Gera, Suhl, Dresden, Leipzig, Chemnitz).
  - b. One BVDVP Betriebsschutz (factory guards) in Siegmar - Schoenau which is presumed to be responsible exclusively for the protection of SDAG ~~Wismut~~ Wismut installations.
  - c. The Praesidium Deutsche Volkspolizei (PDVP) in East Berlin with nine VP Inspektionen I (Berlin - Friedrichshain, Berlin Koepenick, Berlin Lichtenberg, Berlin-Mitte, Berlin - Pankow, Berlin - Prenzlauer Berg, Berlin - Treptow, Berlin - Weissensee, Berlin - Baumschulenweg) and at least 4 but at the most 7 kaserned police Bereitschaften in Berlin - Koepenick, Berlin - Ludwigsfelde, Berlin - Kaulsdorf, Berlin - Rummelsburg, Berlin - Niederschoenhausen and Berlin - Rahnsdorf. The Ludwigsfelde Bereitschaft mainly serves as training Bereitschaft and fighting group school.
  - d. DVP central schools.
  - e. Penal installations.

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## II.

1. The headquarters of a BVDVP at a smaller level corresponds to that of the HVDVP. The various fields and branches are handled by departments which correspond to the main departments (HA) of the HVDVP and are organized into sections, subsections and squads.
  - a. Personnel Department (P)
  - b. Political Department (PA)
  - c. Training Department (AS)
  - d. Uniformed Police Department (S) with sections (S 1 (uniformed police) S 2 (ABV or district chiefs) and S 3 (mobile details).
  - e. Criminal Police Department (K) with sections VE People's owned economy), AK (general offences), F (search and search file) and KT (penology).
  - f. Investigation Department (U)
  - g. Factory Guards Departments (BS)
  - h. Traffic Police Department (VK) with squads traffic control, vehicle license office and technical control.
  - i. Fire Brigade Department (F) with sections F 1 (preventive fire protection), F 2 (fire fighting) and F 3 (fire investigation)
  - k. Pass and Registration Department (PM) with sections (PM)1 (pass and registration matters), PM 2 (associations and publications), PM 3 (poisons and explosives) and PM 4 (interzonal matters).
  - l. Quartermaster and Technical Services Department (I/TD) with subsections finances, supply, construction projects and revision and inspection:
 

TD 1 (ordnance material, ammunition), TD 2 (motor vehicles, fuel and technical handling of transport matters), TD 3 (signal communications, procurement and operation of telecommunications and motor pool.)
  - m. Department for Prisons and Prisoners (SV)
  - n. Department in charge of the Execution of Punishment
  - o. Medical Service and Sanitation Department.
2. Each of the 14 BVDVPs is assigned:
  - a. One KVP Bereitschaft (mtz) numbering 400 to 600 men and armed with pistols, machine guns, carbines, light and heavy machine guns, armored personnel carriers, water mortars (Wasserwerfer)
  - b. One uniformed police detail (mtz) numbering 400 to 600 men and armed with pistols, machine guns, carbines, light and heavy machine guns, armored personnel carriers, water mortars (Wasserwerfer).

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- b. One uniformed police detail (mtz) numbering up to 100 men and armed with pistols, submachine guns and carbines;

The units mentioned under a and b make a concentrated police employment possible.

- c. Volkspolizei Kreis Aemter (VPKAe) which correspond to the Stadtkreise and Landkreise of the general administration. Each Stadtkreis with its Landkreis is handled by one VPKA which is accordingly staffed. An exception is the eastern sector of Berlin which is assigned to the Praesidium Deutsche Volkspolizei. See Paragraph I, 2,c.
- d. Betriebs Volkspolizei Aemter (VP Ae) (B) which are responsible for security and control of the Five-Year Plan installations.
- e. Various ~~police~~ installations.

### III.

The VPKA and its agencies are the main bearer of police activity. The composition of the VPKA corresponds to the superior BVDVP on a smaller scale. The Uniformed Police Department is assigned

- a. VP Reviere (precincts)
- b. VP Gruppen Posten (groups)
- c. VP Einzelposten (on point duty)
- d. Schnell-Kommandot (mtz) (flying squad) with a maximum strength of 40 men.

A varying number of Abschnitts Bevollmaechtigten (ABV) depending on size and mission of the above-mentioned field offices are employed at these offices and are in charge of between 5,000 and 6,000 residents.

### IV.

Available information tends to indicate that the Deutsche Volkspolizei totals about 80,000 men. The breakdown based on conjectures derived from information on individual offices is as follows:

a. Breakdown according to offices:

Praesidium Deutsche Volkspolizei in East Berlin	8,000 men
14 BVDVPs each of 550 to 650 men	8,500 men
200 VBKAe each of 280 to 300 men	56,000 men
1 BVDVP (BS)	1,500 men
	<hr/> 76,000 men

To this must be added HVDVP, schools, camps and special offices with between 3,000 and 5,000 men	4,000 men
	<hr/> 80,000 men

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b. Breakdown according to branches of service:	
Uniformed police and traffic control (S and WK)	40,400 men
Criminal police (K)	3,120 men
Factory guards (BS)	20,420 men
Pass and registration matters (PM)	1,360 men
Quartermaster and technical services (I/TD)	1,225 men
Fire brigade (F)	8,560 men
Medical service and sanitation (GW)	1,020 men
Personnel (I)	1,740 men
Political indoctrination (PA)	1,225 men

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Total 90,000 men

No information is available on the strength of the personnel employed at penal installations.

## V.

The transportation police units are assigned to the Transport Police Main Department (HAT) of the XState Secretariate of State Security, rather than to the HVDVP. They are organized into 14 transport police areas each with 5 companies. The area headquarters are located in Berlin, Potsdam, Schwerin, Greifwald, Magdeburg, Aschersleben, Halle, Leipzig, Cottbus, Dresden, Chemnitz (Karl Marx Stadt), Zwickau, Erfurt and Gera. Since each area has strength of about 750 police, the total strength including the personnel of the HAT and a central school may amount to about 11,000 men.

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